How the AG is Used

Mary Fritsch
Argonne National Laboratory

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usage.highlights

Community display versus single headshot

Creates casual and group dynamic

Forces people off the desktop environment

Creation of environment versus screen/display

Brings local and remote groups together

Technology seamless

Allows more headway in collaborative projects

Reduces travel costs

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usage.limitations

Must address the weakest AG performance

Testing time required

Usage at the mercy of available physical space

Very large scale conferences

Combined AG events don't always fully interact with *both* local and remote audiences

AG events need meeting organization too

Multicast and network dependent

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learning

- accredited classes
- all day seminars (partial participation)
- tutorials
- learning through testing
- open test room environment
- established nodes help troubleshoot

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flexibility

- thesis defense

- large sets of AG nodes come onboard through specialized testcruises

- conferences went to AG when global issues effected travel

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the.list.goes.on…

Accredited Classes over the Web	Conferences/Workshops
Advisory Committees	Budget Meetings
Applications	Interviews
Awards Ceremonies	Panel Discussions
Bring your Daughter to Work Day	Planning Meetings
Budget Talks	Testing and Training of New Access Grid Sites
CyberSecurity Plans	Thesis Defense
Dance Recitals	User Groups
Lunch Seminars	Voice to Text Demo
Government/Political Officials	Weekly Meetings
Grand Openings of Nodes	Working Group Meetings
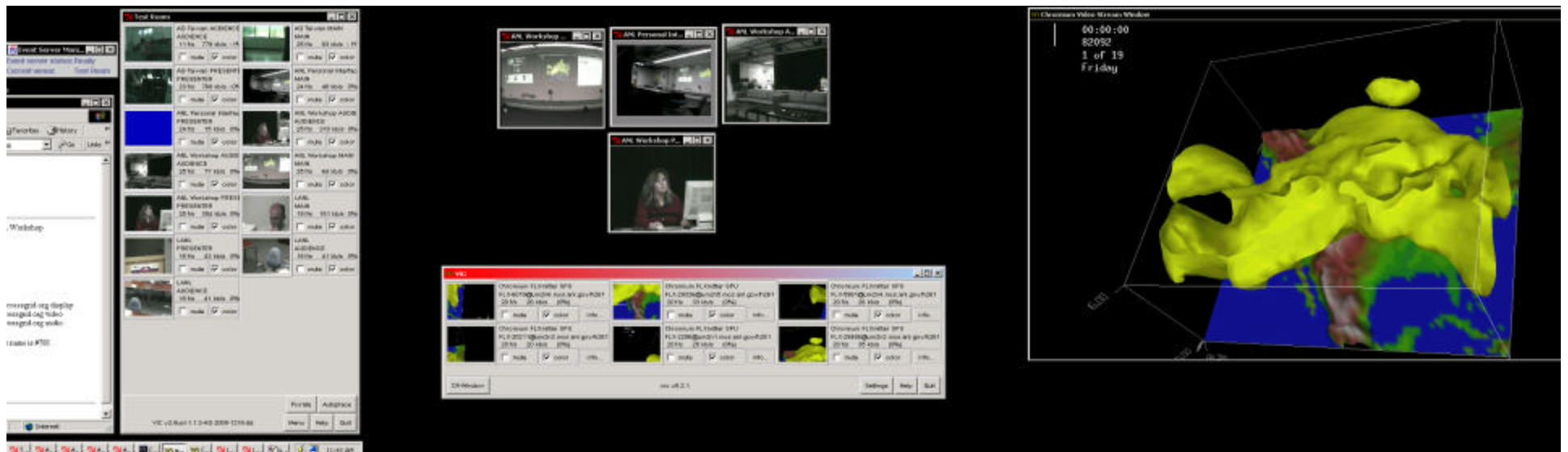
security

- environments versus desktop, creates assumptions that anyone can walk through a space easily

- technology disappears too much and reverse assumption that it is very secure

- institution rooms facilitate casual spaces

- majority of meetings are not secure

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consistency

The measure of success is not whether you have a tough problem to deal with, but whether it's the same problem you had last year.

John Foster Dulles

consistency

- recurring meetings helps workflow

- events introduce AG to new users

- perpetual nodes result in AG stability

- many would find it difficult to remove AG from their typical working environments

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outreach

- demonstrations/new node dedications
- tours of other vr or technology include AG
- a way to meet and introduce individuals
- large scale, multisite seminars
- push for groups working on joint projects
- selling AG as software, product, and service
- connecting affiliated companies
- kicks off clusters of AG nodes

ACCESS GRID

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distant.example

Global Grid Forum 7 in Tokyo Japan

Players: Global Grid Forum and open to all other AG sites

Usage: To further extend outreach of GGF via the AG during their seventh forum.

Group Info: The Global Grid Forum (*GGF*) is a community-initiated forum of 5000+ individual researchers and practitioners working on distributed computing, or "grid" technologies. GGF's primary objective is to promote and support the development, deployment, and implementation of Grid technologies and applications…

"GGF has been able to use the AG to enhance its participation in plenary sessions since July 2002."

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kickoff.example

Kickoff Meeting for MEMS Component Project

Players: University of Wisconsin, San Diego Supercomputing Center, ANL (Material Sciences Division)

Usage: Progress Meetings

Group Info: Argonne National Laboratory researchers have developed a process for growing diamond film that promises to bring the superior mechanical, tribological, and thermal properties of diamond to the rapidly expanding field of micro-electromechanical systems (MEMS) technology. Diamond components have been made in the laboratory by other methods, but Argonne's method is the first to produce components with the smoothness, detail, and structural stability necessary for practical use.

"I am excited about adding the layer of group-to-group video to this meeting series. We used to just have teleconferences – what a difference."

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monthly.example

Virtual Seminars on Genomics and Bioinformatics

Players: North Dakota State University and open to all other AG sites (AG registration required)

Usage: Seminar Series

Group Info: Monthly virtual seminars on genomics and bioinformatics try to promote discussions and generate an environment for potential collaboration and a dynamic exchange of ideas.

"Instead of losing the many potential person-to-person discussions through the limitations of distance, virtual seminars can exploit the diversity of researchers' professional and personal experiences, and give a truly global perspective..."

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biweekly.example

Numerical Methods for Radiation Transport Course

Players: Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), University of New Mexico, Sandia National Lab (NW) students/teachers.

Usage: Graduate level course taught by instructor at LANL and distributed over the AG to 3 other remote locations.

weekly.example

Computation Institute Seminar Series

Players: University of Chicago and Argonne National Laboratory

Usage: Weekly presentations to members and fellows of the CI, who mainly work between UC and ANL.

Group Info: The mission of the Computation Institute (CI) is to address the most challenging problems arising in the use of strategic computation and communications across a broad spectrum of intellectual activities, laying the groundwork for significant advances in the biological, physical, social, and financial sciences, medicine, law, the arts, and the humanities. The CI is a joint project of Argonne National Laboratory and the University of Chicago.

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"A perfect solution to Chicago traffic."

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bimonthly.example

ERC Group Meeting

Players: University of Chicago and Argonne National Laboratory (Energy Technology/Material Sciences)

Usage: Weekly Meetings

Group Info: The Emergency Resuscitation Research Center (ERRC) of the University of Chicago was established in January of 1999 to focus researchers as a scientific alliance against the problem of cardiac arrest. Its mission is to develop new therapies and devices that enhance survival following cardiac arrest by establishing a collaborative research effort among faculty from the clinical, physical, basic and engineering sciences.

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"We are happy to have this technology available to us."

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weekly.example

ASCI/Flash Management Meeting

Players: University of Chicago and Argonne National Laboratory
(Math and Computer Science)

Usage: Weekly Group Meetings

Group Info: An Accelerated Strategic Computing Initiative (ASCI)
Academic Strategic Alliances Program (ASAP) Center. Our Center -
the "Flash Center" - is funded by the DOE ASCI/Alliances Program to
build a state-of-the-art simulator code for solving nuclear astrophysical
problems related to exploding stars.

"I don't know what we did before the AG."

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human.factors

- steady usage creates communities (AG averages ~120 events/month)
- introduces people that may never meet in person
- ease of use fosters levity
- participants tend to understand it is research technology
- testing nodes often cultivates mentors
- text channels keep folks connected between meetings
- chance meetings driving through spaces
- elimination of travel costs, but not timezones

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thank.you
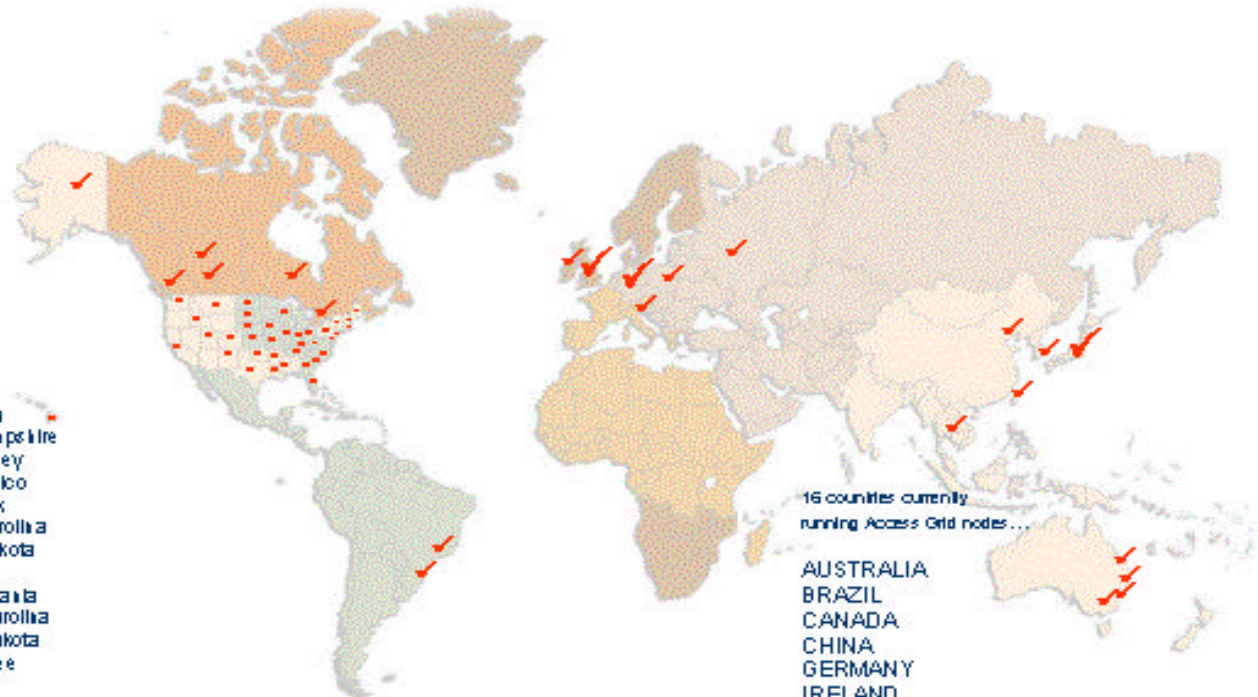

ACCESS GRID
www.accessgrid.org

Access Grid Sites Around the World
(February 2003)

UNITED STATES

39 states currently
running Access Grid nodes...

Alaska
Arkansas
California
Colorado
Florida
Georgia
Hawaii
Idaho
Illinois
Indiana
Iowa
Kansas
Kentucky
Louisiana
Maine
Maryland
Massachusetts
Michigan
Mississippi
Missouri
Montana

Nebraska
New Hampshire
New Jersey
New Mexico
New York
North Carolina
North Dakota
Ohio
Pennsylvania
South Carolina
South Dakota
Tennessee
Texas
Utah
Virginia
Washington
West Virginia
Wisconsin

16 countries currently
running Access Grid nodes...

AUSTRALIA
BRAZIL
CANADA
CHINA
GERMANY
IRELAND
ITALY
JAPAN
NETHERLANDS
POLAND
RUSSIA
SOUTH KOREA
TAIWAN
THAILAND